

The Evening Herald.

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An efficient man is a man who can do what he ought to do; or when he ought to do it whether he wants to do it or not.—New Mexico Indian.

LET HERNANDEZ TALK.

GIVE Hernandez a chance! This sentiment is heard with more and more of exhortatory emphasis from Democrats and Republicans alike as the campaign for congress goes on. There is a feeling now growing rapidly that H. C. Hernandez, the standard candidate, is not being given a fair deal; that he is being denied his opportunity to get before that public whose support and suffrage he seeks; that his views on public questions, his ability to debate, his eloquence and his powers are being smothered under a perfect torrent of assurance which rolls over the candidate leaving nothing of his personality in sight except his name upon the mudhills.

The principal flow of assistance comes from Ralph C. Ely, chairman of the Hernandez campaign committee. It is Ely who writes the letters to the boys and to the newspapers; it is Ely who answers all the questions fired at him by his Republican brothers and his Democratic opponents; it is Ely who makes the brilliant campaign speech and the stand-pat argument on the issues of the day—or at least upon what Ely considers to be the issues of the day. It is Ely who makes the attack upon Congressman Ferguson.

Occasionally United States Senator Thomas Benton Catron walks onto the scene with reinforcements of a minor character, as a part, presumably, of his routine duty as a member of the national senate. Senator Catron's assistance, however, like his work in the senate of the United States, is not of any special interest or value. It is a sort of side show and in importance the senator ranks alongside the candidate. It is Ely who is the 42-centimeter gun in this campaign. He is the heavy artillery and the big noise, and beside him even the concluding bell ringing of Candidate Hugh Williams becomes a puny peep.

Nor does Mr. Ely make any attempt to conceal the fact that he is the big star delight marker in this performance. It is customary, of course, for the campaign manager, from behind the scenes, to coach the candidate, to assist him with his correspondence, to direct his campaign tours; even and not infrequently, to write his speeches for him. But for the manager to deliver the candidate's speeches is a little unusual. It might, in fact, be said to be unique.

In the Republican meeting held in Masonic temple last night Mr. Hernandez was expected to make a campaign argument. He didn't, but Mr. Ely did. And the situation at last night's meeting was illustrative of the Hernandez campaign throughout.

We do not like to make an unkind or an unfair suggestion; but it is possible that Hernandez is not able to make a campaign argument. Just possible. In fact there is a growing impression among the people who have heard him try that such is the case. The impression also is growing space that it is not Hernandez, but Ely, who is running for congress.

In the unthinkable event that Hernandez should be elected to congress, would Ely go along and make his speeches for him from the floor of the house? Would Ely be there to reply when New Mexico congressman was interrogated by some fellow member upon a public question in debate? Certainly Senator Catron could not be expected to do it, for the senator hasn't time to attend to his own speechmaking in the upper house of congress. And a substitute at best not being permitted in the rules of the congressional game, it becomes interesting to speculate on just what H. C. Hernandez would do if he turned loose in the halls of congress to go it alone.

In the meantime Hernandez is the standard candidate for congress. The great, farmed-out public of the state demands that he be given a fair chance in this campaign.

THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION.

ONE of the clearest statements yet made covering the operations of the new federal trade commission is that by Senator Francis G. Newlands in the current number of Review of Reviews. As to the powers of the commission, he says:

"Briefly stated, they relate to investigation, to the condemnation of unfair methods of competition, and to the suit of the attorney general and the courts in the enforcement of the anti-trust acts."

The merger of the bureau of corporations, with all its officials and powers, in the federal trade commission, secures the preservation of the accumulated experience and knowledge of that useful organization.

The creation of a commission, with varying terms for the first appointees, and thereafter a fixed term of seven years for their successors, guards against sudden changes in the personnel of the commission, and assures stability, conscientiousness and consistency. The independent character gives against political, legislative or executive control, and makes it a quasi-judicial tribunal of great dignity.

It will not be subject to influence by the influence of party politicians, or to the control which slows down or hinders prosecutions with a view to political expediency. It will do away with the office adjustments of the attorney general's office, which whilst delicate conducted with propriety by the incumbents, arouses suspicion always created by so-called star-chamber proceedings. Everything now will be done in the open, in the public eye, after hearing and argument to which all may have access. No one can question the effect of such dignity and publicity of procedure upon the public mind, now keenly sensitive and perhaps unduly critical.

The general powers of investigation are applied only to corporations, the creation of the law, artificial beings owing their existence to the lawmaking power. It was an thought wise to extend the general power of investigation to individuals and firms engaged in interstate commerce, lest the commission should break down under its burden, and also because the organizations and practices complained of are generally of a corporate character.

While the powers are necessarily broad, none but the guilty need fear us, as none others need fear the criminal code, which is applicable to all and with reference to which the extraordinary powers of grand and trial juries may be invoked. These powers are contained in section six, which authorizes the commission to gather and compile information concerning and to investigate the organization, business, conduct, practices and management of corporations engaged in commerce, avoid monopoly and commercial carriers, to require such corporations to file annual or special reports, and to furnish the information required to investigate the manner in which debts are carried out, and to report its findings and recommendations to the attorney general to investigate, upon the direction of the president or either house of congress and to report regarding alleged violations of the antitrust acts by any corporation to investigate, upon application of the attorney general, and to make recommendations for the reduction of the business of any corporation alleged to be violating the antitrust acts, in order that it may thereafter conduct its business in accordance with law, to make the information which it collects public in its discretion, except secret and names of customers, and to make annual and special reports to congress with recommendations for additional legislation to classify corporations and make rules and regulations for the enforcement of the act, and to investigate trade conditions in and with foreign countries, where associations, combinations or practices of manufacturers may affect our foreign trade, and to report these to congress.

EXPERT TESTIMONY.

THE BATTLE of the Alice has gone the full twenty rounds and then some, with both sides coming back strong and no sign of the R. G. The Kaiser has quit holding up his right and seems to be carrying on to save that wing from punishment. It seems to have been badly sprained in the early stages of the battle. His left is still active and he is pushing in his left wing with the same old-time spirit.

CAHLANZA seems to have an especially grande passion for the Concord family.

BEGORE THIS campaign is over Hernandez undoubtedly will state his position on the U. S. P. "offense and negligence" plan.

A warrior named Von Kress Who is greatly admired for his skill While always in ready On every bit of wood Never seems to have any task.

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